

RED HERALD

Order of The Arrow

Coosa Lodge 50

Greater Alabama Council

Boy Scouts of America

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Where Are They Now?

By 1st Lt. Alan Camp, U.S.A.F.

One of the most worthwhile experiences of my life has been my involvement in Scouting and the Order of the Arrow. I attribute many of the successes that I have achieved to the learning experiences I had as a member of Troop 123 and Cherokee 50. In these organizations, I learned and developed many skills that will serve me for the rest of my life. I became a member of Cherokee 50 in September of

1987. By 1998, I achieved Brotherhood, and was asked to serve as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Lodge. I remember participating in Lodge Executive Committee meetings at the old Scout Service Center near Highland Golf Course. I served as Vice Chief in 1989, and was elected Lodge Chief of Cherokee 50 in 1991.

Throughout my service in Cherokee 50, I worked on many projects that enabled me to develop the skills that I use in my current career as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. As the Lodge Chief, I was responsible for the planning and execution of the Ordeals and Fall Fellowship day. The planning and execution of these events required the coordination of materials and recruiting people to work at various jobs. While performing these duties, I developed organizational, leadership, and people skills. Just recently I served as the executive officer for the Eighth Annual Interoperability

Conference at Ft. Huachuca, New Mexico. This conference involved approximately 300 attendees and around 50 VIP visitors. I had to coordinate all logistical aspects of the conference, including hotel accommodations, meals, audio/visual support, World Wide Web promotion, and protocol. In many ways, the planning and execution of this event was very similar to the planning and execution of an OA Ordeal.

As Lodge Chief, I also had to balance a variety of different tasks. Along with Ordeals and Fellowship Days, there were also ceremony and dance team, the "Blue Book," troop elections, and other activities. Each member of the Lodge Executive Committee had to balance these important activities with their own activities. For me, these included work on my Computer Science degree at UAB, Air Force ROTC, part time jobs, and serving as the Vice Chief of Southeastern Section 3. To

do this involved developing organization and scheduling skills.

In my Air Force job, I face a similar balancing act. At work, I am performing Operational Test and Evaluation of the financial computer system that serves the U.S. Navy. I am also performing an Interoperability Certification of the computer system that the Navy uses for military pay. I have numerous "additional duties," including the conference I mentioned before. Outside of work I am also involved in many activities. I am one quarter short of finishing an MBA with an emphasis in Management of Information Systems. I am also performing a full restoration of my 1966 Volkswagen Beetle. Most importantly, I recently married Shelly, who is a Systems Engineer.

Shelly and I will be moving to Patch Barracks in Stuttgart-Vaihing City, Germany. I will be working at Headquarters, European Command, where I will be in charge of eleven

people who administer the Global Command and Control System (GCCS). GCCS is used by the military for planning and execution of all military operations. Shelly will be working on the Defense Message System (DMS). DMS is the military version of e-mail, and provides security and message authentication. In my job in Germany, and in all jobs from then on, I will continue to use the skills that I developed years ago as a member of Cherokee 50. I urge you to get involved in your troop and in the Lodge. Look for opportunities to organize events and lead people. Don't underestimate the importance of the work that you can do, as you will also be developing skills for your own success in the future. Always be appreciative and respectful for the time and effort given by your adult leaders and advisers. It is their help that sets the stage for success in your unit and the Lodge. Finally, never stop going to school.

Call-Outs To Be At Summer Camp

At the recent Order of the Arrow Coosa Lodge Executive Committee meeting, a decision was made to change all Order of the Arrow call-outs (e.g. tap-out ceremony) to occur during Summer Camp at Sequoyah or Comer, rather than at district Spring Camporees. This decision provides for a more uniform experience throughout our council, and offers several positive influences on the program: It will encourage unit attendance at one of our own council camps. It will help create ties of loyalty and tradition to our own camps. It should make record-keeping easier of those called out. It will tie in well with other OA programs we choose to offer at summer camp. With this decision, the Lodge does not intend to dissociate the OA

from the district spring camporees and the campfire - rather, we want to continue to foster that tradition, because this campfire experience is many of our Scouts (and parents) first exposure to the OA. In addition, it provides an opportunity for our district OA members to serve their district. Therefore, rather than a call-out ceremony, the Lodge will recommend that each chapter provide a ceremony with the typical regalia, including the OA legend in prose, followed by a recognition ceremony of all those inducted into the OA since the last spring camporee. As this Council's Order of the Arrow Lodge, we will continue to find better ways to support our own camps, and we believe this decision will prove positive to the camping program of the Greater

Lake Guntersville State Park

By Mr. Glenn Creamer

This winter consider camping at Lake Guntersville State Park. Lake Guntersville State Park is 6 miles northeast of Guntersville and can be reached by State Road 227. You can roam the 5,559 acre park and take in the panoramic views while hiking any of the 8 trails, some of which were once used by the Cherokee. The hiking trails range in difficulty, from a very easy 20 minute stroll suitable for the whole family, to a moderately strenuous 12-mile lakeside hike, to a 1 mile straight up (or down) "gut check". Park naturalist Linda Reynolds gives guided hiking tours, on request, pointing out local flora and fauna. Contact her at 1-256-571-5445. A good preview of the park is to watch the Discovering Alabama video produced by Dr. Doug Phillips of the University of Alabama. Check it out at your local library. Improved campsites for Scout groups are fifty cents(50¢) per person per night. Make your reservations at 1-256-571-5455.

The real attraction is the winter gathering of bald eagles that live in the park and fish in the lake. January is the prime month for eagle watching, though the raptors may migrate through anytime between December and February. The best observing takes place at sunrise (be in place by 6:00 A.M.) along Short Creek. Look up in the trees along the creek bed. Another good time for observing is 9:00 A.M. Go to the campground near the lake and watch the eagles as they fish. Be sure to take binoculars and a camera with a telephoto lens (200 mm or larger). Contact Ms. Reynolds for an update on the current eagle watch conditions.

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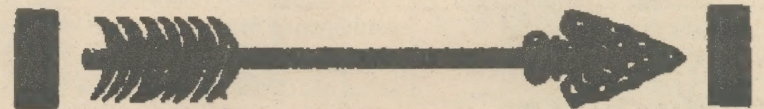
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Publication Committee Positions To Be Filled

By Mr. Glenn Creamer

Massey Griffin, our lodge secretary, has an awesome responsibility this year. He serves as chair to the Publications Committee and co-chair to the Membership Committee, as well as fulfilling his Secretary duties at LEC meetings. He needs all of our support.

The Publications Committee has several vacancies that need filling. I request your help in identifying capable candidates, youths and adults, to fill the positions. Please provide name of youth or adult and their address, phone, and email for Web Page Webmaster. Dr. Flatt desires tribal editors and advisers to support the lodge editor and adviser.



Coosa Lodge 50 LEC Minutes

By Massey Griffin

Our next Coosa Lodge LEC is right around the corner on January 16th. Details on this LEC meeting will be coming soon.

Dr. Flatt has requested each lodge operating committee establish a basic set of goals complete with a time-line to track when its goals are to be reached. This would give each operating committee some sense of direction as we start our first year. If the Lodge operating committees set the standard in planning, then it should help the Tribal operating committees proceed as well.

As an example, here's a possible time-line plan for the Finance Committee:

1-16-00 LEC - Request Tribal Budgets for Fiscal Year 2000
2-26-00 LLDC - Present overall Lodge Budget for Y2K
3-18-00 Spring Fellowship - Review ongoing budget/expenses with Tribes

Dr. Flatt has requested these goals/ time-lines be ready for presentation at the January 16th LEC. Each sub-committee of the Publications Committee, i.e., (1) Newsletter, (2) Web Page, (3) Planbook, and (4) "Where to Go Camping Guide", should prepare its own and commit it to paper in a format similar to the example above. By following this format, we will use these plans at the upcoming Coosa Lodge Leadership Development Conference in February.

Sub-committee advisers, please work with your sub-committee chairs in completing this planning process on time. I am available for consultation.

As soon as your chair completes your sub-committee's goals/ time-line, please e-mail it to Massey Griffin and myself. The drop-dead date to get your goals/ time-lines to Massey is Monday, January 3rd. Massey and I will review them, and he will edit them as the goals/ time-lines for the Publications Committee. It is my hope that all sub-committee chairs and advisers will be present at the January 16th LEC. If the meeting format permits (I will find out later), it is desirable that each sub-committee chair make his own verbal report. I am looking forward to seeing all of you and working with you to help Coosa Lodge 50 earn the Quality Lodge Award.

Message from Dr. Flatt: "Hopefully, the school Christmas holiday will provide a little time for our committee chairmen to work on this - I know we're all busy at this time of year, and I do appreciate your commitment to the Lodge to get us started on the right track! My best wishes for the holidays to you and yours!"



Editorial

By A.J. Blount

For those of you who don't know me yet, I am A.J. Blount, the editor of the new Lodge Newspaper. It is an honor to serve you and this Lodge. It is my goal to keep all of you informed about events that happen in this Lodge. I am trying my best to achieve this goal, but in order to do it I need your help. If you are interested in submitting articles for consideration, please contact me by phone at 205-663-3806, or e-mail at Crasher000@hotmail.com.

In our next issue, be sure to check out the introduction of our new lodge officers!!!



From The Lodge Chief

By David R. Self

Brothers,

I would like to begin by wishing each of you a wonderful and safe new year. I hope that it is a year filled with growth and prosperity for each of you. On the subject of growth, Let's talk about the Lodge for a little while. I was at the annual business meeting of the Council Executive board when our Lodge Advisor, Dr. James Flatt, told me that we had a little over 2,100 dues paid members for the first year of our Lodge. I cannot begin to describe my reaction to this news. I was amazed to learn that we are well over 2,200 dues paid members and counting. I must say, I am truly grateful for your willingness to be a part of something that has such a great purpose and a great future. As with everything, that future that we are destined to experience must begin with small steps. I know that our small steps are going to last for all of the first half hour of our first Charter, and then we will start running to put Conclave 2K together. This is a good thing though. Why you ask? This gives us an immediate chance to put old rivalries and hurt feelings to the side and work together as one to make Conclave the biggest success that our Section will ever know. Unfortunately, this requires each of us to do something that is a little difficult to do.

It is a little, six letter word called Change. I am asking each of you to strive to put old rivalries to the side and blaze a new trail away from the past and towards a great and shining future. The legacy of the three lodges will not be forgotten, but will be forever interred within our memory. Even though we feel safer in clinging to the past, we must move forward. It is our destiny to become the greatest Lodge in the Order of the Arrow, and only you can make it possible. Only you can help us achieve our lofty goals. ONLY YOU can help the Lodge claim its destiny. We as a whole must work together to make Conclave a stellar success, and we as a whole must come together in the spirit of Brotherhood to achieve whatever goals we may have.

I challenge each of you to do these two simple things: 1) If you have a Coosa Lodge Flap, sew it on your shirt and wear it proudly, 2) Don't let your Brothers in the Order down. We need your help, and we need you. Have a wonderful and safe new year.

Coosa Lodge 50 Camping Guide

By Mr. Glenn Creamer

The purposes of this article are to familiarize everyone with the purpose of the subcommittee and serve notice that a youth chairman and adult advisor are needed. If you enjoy researching new camping sites, making maps, using the computer - word processing and graphic arts applications, then the "Where to Go Camping Guide" Subcommittee is an excellent way to serve the lodge and the council. If you are interested in serving, please contact Mr. Creamer at (h) 205/ 824-1076 or email nattybumpo@mindspring.com.

VISION STATEMENT

Promote troop camping by issuing a camping resource directory, the "Where to Go Camping Guide" and posting "where to camp" articles in the lodge newsletters. Provide youth Arrowmen with a leadership and service experience that will make them want to assume more responsibility within the lodge.

MISSION STATEMENT

The objectives will be achieved. Everyone will contribute and cooperate. Members will display enthusiasm, boldness and aggressiveness in achieving the objectives. There will be a minimum of meetings. Everyone will stay on their timetable. Call if you need help, early! Maintain thorough and accurate records for transfer to the next subcommittee. Write everything down. Strive to achieve a ratio of at least two youth Arrowmen to one adult Arrowman on the subcommittee. Strive to make this a youth-run committee.

VALUES

"...do your best to do your duty..."
 "...seek to preserve a cheerful spirit, even in the midst of irksome tasks and weighty responsibilities..."
 "...endeavor to be unselfish in service and devotion to the welfare of others."

OBJECTIVES

"Where to Camp" articles will be printed in each of the quarterly lodge newspapers/ newsletters. Enter the Coosa Lodge 50 "Where to Go Camping Guide" as an element of the

lodge publications contest at the SR-8b conclave. Enter the Coosa Lodge 50 "Where to Go Camping Guide" as an element of the lodge publications contest at the biennial NOAC. Assist the lodge webmaster in placing elements of the Coosa Lodge 50 "Where to Go Camping Guide" on the lodge's website.

GUIDELINES

The lodge is technically a subcommittee of the council's camping committee. The council camping committee loosely oversees the publication of the "Where to Go Camping Guide". The Quality Lodge Application does not specify how frequently the "Where to Go Camping Guide" must be published. The lodge's by-laws also do not specify the frequency. Coosa Lodge 50 will publish a new edition about every two years. Local businesses were solicited to underwrite the publishing costs of past editions. Historically, adult advisors help with one edition, then move off the subcommittee but are available for consulting. Input from troops is desirable. Every troop within the Greater Alabama Council will receive one (1) copy of the "Where to Go Camping Guide".

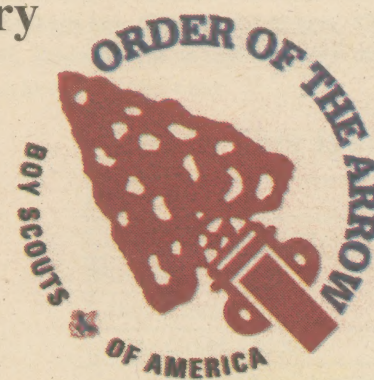
The youth chairman will remain active in his troop. He will attend each Lodge Executive Committee (LEC) Meeting. He will lead team members to achieve objectives. He will show active leadership in the lodge by attending all LEC meetings (where he will make a verbal and written progress report), Ordeals (within his tribe), and Fellowships/Pow-Wows. If possible, he should attend all SR-8b conclaves and go to NOAC to observe how other lodges do the "Where to Go Camping Guide".

The "Where to Go Camping Guide" Subcommittee will use the planning skills as taught in the Junior Leader's Training Course. The skills are consider the objective, consider the resources, consider the alternatives,

Lodge E-Mail Directory

By Massey Griffin

In the near future, our lodge Publications and Communications Committee will put together a lodge e-mail directory. Its purpose is to improve communication between our lodge members. This information will be put into a database for publication to be released to our lodge members. Please provide your name, chapter, and e-mail address to Massey Griffin at coosa_sec@hotmail.com.



Coosa Lodge Fifty 2000 Calendar

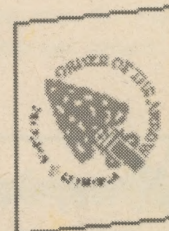
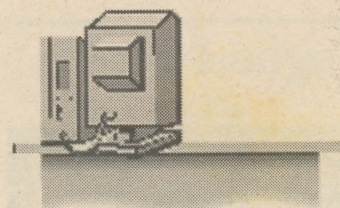
January 8	Council of Chiefs - Montgomery
	Summer Staff Interviews - Jacksonville State University
January 16	Coosa LEC - Cullman
February 12	Camp Staff Interviews - Birmingham Council Office
February 19	Camp Staff Interviews - Anniston & Huntsville Council Office
February 26	Coosa LLDC - Lodge Leader Development Conference
March 9	Cherokee Tribe Banquet
March 18	Coosa Lodge Spring Fellowship and Conclave Workday - Camp Sequoyah
April 8	Conclave Workday - Camp Sequoyah
April 14-16	Section Conclave - Camp Sequoyah
June 2-4	Ordeal / Brotherhood Workday - Camp Comer
June 23-25	Ordeal / Brotherhood Workday - Camp Jackson
July 14-16	Ordeal / Brotherhood Workday - Camp Westmoreland
July 29 - August 3	NOAC - University of Tennessee, Knoxville
August 25-27	Ordeal - Camp Comer
September 15-17	Ordeal - Camp Winnetaska
October 6-8	Coosa Fall Fellowship Pow-Wow - Camp Jackson
November 17-19	National Leadership Seminar - TBA

Cherokee Tribe 2000 Calendar

March 9	Cherokee Tribe Banquet
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The Greater Alabama Council
Boy Scouts of America
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**You Might Be Overactive In The
Order of the Arrow If...**



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